





Sash: Hokkaido, Bando





...I'M  
SWAMPED  
WITH  
STUDIES.  
I'M SORRY.



I'M  
NOT,  
BUT...

BUT  
YOU'RE  
NOT IN  
ANY  
OTHER  
CLUB,  
ARE  
YOU?



I SEE.  
THAT'S  
TOO BAD.



I'M  
HERE  
ONLY  
BECAUSE  
IT'S P.E.  
CLASS.



...I HAVE  
NO IDEA WHAT'S  
SO FUN ABOUT  
KENDO.

FRANKLY...



December  
21, deep  
in the  
night at  
11:00 PM



MOST  
OF THE  
TREASURES  
HAVE COME  
BACK.



CAREFUL.



I'M  
TRULY  
SORRY...



LOOK AT  
ALL THE  
UNNECESSARY  
TROUBLE  
WE'VE HAD TO  
DEAL WITH,  
THANKS TO  
ZAIZEN.





IT ALL  
CAME BACK  
HERE BECAUSE  
SAPPORO'S  
FUJITA  
MANSION IS  
GETTING  
RENOVATED.

I GUESS  
THIS IS THE  
SAFEST  
PLACE TO  
KEEP THE  
STUFF,  
AFTER ALL.



I GUESS  
IT'S REALLY  
DIFFICULT  
TO TURN  
ART AND  
ANTIQUES  
INTO CASH.



I'M  
SURPRISED  
SO MUCH OF  
THE STUFF IS  
STILL HERE,  
UNTOUCHED.



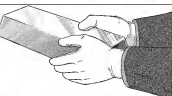
THERE'S  
NOTHING  
WE CAN  
DO ABOUT  
THAT. ALL  
WE CAN DO  
IS KEEP  
THE STUFF  
AROUND.

I HEARD  
ONLY ONE  
PAINTING  
GOT SOLD,  
AND THAT  
WAS ALL.



WHY  
WEREN'T  
THESE  
GOLD  
BRICKS  
SOLD?

THE GOLD  
COULD HAVE  
EASILY SOLD,  
THOUGH.





THAT'S  
A 125 KG  
GOLD  
INGOT.



YIKES,  
IT'S  
HEAVY!



BUT  
THAT'S  
THE REAL  
WEIGHT  
OF A  
GOLD  
BRICK.



I DIDN'T LET  
YOU TOUCH IT  
WHILE WE WERE  
WORKING  
BECAUSE I  
DIDN'T WANT  
YOU TO  
DROP IT.



SO GOLD  
IS THIS  
HEAVY...



SERIOUSLY?







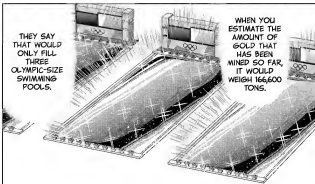
IT'S SAID  
THAT ONLY A FEW  
PLACES PRESERVE  
GOLD IN THE 12.5  
KG INGOT FORM,  
SUCH AS THE FRB IN  
THE U.S., THE BANK  
OF ENGLAND,  
AND SO ON IN  
UNDERGROUND  
SAFES. NOBODY  
REALLY KNOWS  
FOR SURE.

FRB: The Federal Reserve Bank, the central bank of the U.S.



THAT'S  
AWESOME.

SO MAYBE  
THE DOJUKU  
INVESTMENT  
CLUB IS THE  
ONLY PLACE  
WHERE GOLD  
BRICKS ARE  
STACKED LIKE  
THIS.



THEY SAY  
THAT WOULD  
ONLY FILL  
THREE  
OLYMPIC-SIZE  
SWIMMING  
POOLS.

WHEN YOU  
ESTIMATE THE  
AMOUNT OF  
GOLD THAT  
HAS BEEN  
MINED SO FAR,  
IT WOULD  
WEIGH 166,600  
TONS.



IT'S  
CONJECTURED  
THAT THERE  
ARE ONLY  
70,000 TO  
80,000 TONS  
OF GOLD LEFT  
TO MINE.

2,000 TO  
3,000 TONS  
GET MINED  
ANNUALLY.



WHY ARE  
YOU SO  
KNOWLEDGEABLE  
ABOUT IT?

YOU'RE  
QUITE  
KNOWL-  
EDGEABLE  
ABOUT IT,  
NABE-SAN.



IN THE  
INVESTMENT  
CLUB...

GOLD  
IS WHAT  
NABE-SAN  
IS ALL  
ABOUT.



...HE'S ALSO  
KNOWN AS THE  
"GOLD  
WATANABE."



ASK ME  
ANYTHING  
ABOUT  
GOLD. I'LL  
ANSWER IT.



I'M NOT  
REALLY THAT  
INTERESTED.



HUH?



ZAIZEN. THINK  
OF THE REASON  
WHY GOLD  
BRICKS ARE KEPT  
IN THE DOJUKU  
INVESTMENT  
CLUB'S SAFE.



BECAUSE  
GOLD IS  
SCARCE, SO  
IT'S VALUE  
WON'T  
DEPRECIATE.



WHY DID  
THEY  
KEEP  
THEM?

BECAUSE...  
OUR  
SENPAIS  
DIDN'T SELL  
THEM, AND  
KEPT THEM  
INSTEAD.



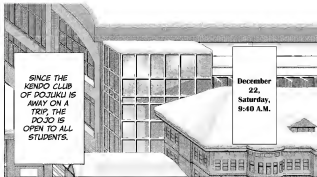
THAT'S  
RIGHT.



IT'S THE  
ULTIMATE  
ASSET.

GOLD IS  
ETERNAL.





SINCE THE  
KENDO CLUB  
OF DOJUKU IS  
AWAY ON A  
TRIP, THE  
DOJO IS  
OPEN TO ALL  
STUDENTS.

December  
22,  
Saturday,  
9:40 A.M.



WHAT AM I  
DOING HERE  
ALONE WITH  
NABE-SAN  
ON MY DAY  
OFF?



HALT.



WHAT'S  
GOLD GOT  
TO DO  
WITH  
KENDO?





"With divine presence, there are no enemies."



